Prepare a one-page reflection on your own experiences at the grade level you have chosen for your Context Statement. Compare your school experiences to those of the students in *SI.* Post to wiki.

Our context statement is focusing on grades 9-12th at Barrington high school. The conditions of the schooling system in Saint Lewis, Illinois are not up to par. It is truly difficult to read about the horrors of what the teachers and students have to go through. In Chapter 2 of *SI* it talked about how the teachers don’t have enough funds from the school to buy supplies for the kids and they take money out of their pocket. This is incredible to hear that teachers are using their own income to help the kids and give back to the school. I also thought that it was sad that the classrooms weren’t decorated with the kid’s artwork. As a child I remember the classroom was filled with posters and crafts. It really makes the room feel more comfortable, instead of having stark white walls. I thought it was also really interesting to hear that teachers would show up at 9:30 when the school day started much earlier than that. I wouldn’t want kids in a learning environment to see that the teachers aren’t even motivated enough to show up on time. At my school the teachers would always be on time to get to class and if they were running late a sub would come in right away to make sure someone was keeping track of the classroom. Kids in the Saint Lewis area have been exposed to violence and gangs at such a surprisingly young age its petrifying. These kids are being buried between the ages of 18 and 30. I luckily in my neighborhood have not had to deal with the violence of gangs. A major factor that was brought up in chapter two dealt with the upbringing of these children. One teacher stated that “ Money would be helpful but it’s not the major factor, the parents are the problem.” Teacher’s cant find jobs in these communities because the enrollment rate is so low. These experiences that students and teachers are going through are incomparable to the school experience I had as a young kid into my high school.